



# Monthly Communicator

New Jersey Department of Human Services  
**Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing**

January 2007

Vol. 28



Jon S. Corzine, Governor

Clarke Bruno, Acting Commissioner

Ira C. Hock, Acting Director

## Camden County College Hosts Book Signing

The Mid-Atlantic Post-Secondary Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (Camden County College), along with the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH), hosted a presentation book signing for their own Dennis Jones, Jr. with *Tarnished Halos and Crooked Fences: A Journey into the World of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing*.

The well attended event took place on the Blackwood Campus during the afternoon of Saturday November 11, 2006. The program began with the Center's Director Josie Durkow welcoming the audience. DDHH's Jason Weiland, Field Representative, gave the opening remarks. Kathy Earp, Program Specialist,

made a most memorable introduction of Dennis Jones, Jr. Dennis' presentation was a window into the recollections, reflections, anger, happiness and honesty that fills the pages of his book. It leads



the reader on a journey into the world of the deaf and hard of hearing where, through trial and error, he slowly begins to forge a new identity and find inner peace. Dennis tells his story in a straightforward manner with his characteristic sense of humor.

A portion of the proceeds from the book sales on that day went toward the Brian C. Shomo Scholarship Fund. This scholarship, established by Brian Shomo in 2001, is awarded to a Camden County College deaf or hard of hearing minority student who satisfies the academic criteria.

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# LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

The December 2006 issue of the Monthly Communicator carries an article explaining the Gallaudet crisis including reference to the \$100 million dollar federal funding being spent on a school which is, [as the article stated]: "rated 'ineffective' this year . . . The report cited problems with the school's retention of students and its graduation rate; persistently fewer than 50 percent of undergraduates get their diploma." . . .

Our tax dollars are being thrown away in yet another fashion. I'm writing my congressman, sending a copy of the article, and asking that the feds withhold funding until the students knuckle down, study, and produce results rather than partying in ASL and protesting. I know my words sound harsh, but I've paid federal taxes since my working days over a 50-year period, and it bothers me that I'm helping to subsidize a college with such a narrow focus. I feel the way I do because I'm deaf too, and I, too, matter, and my opinion is important as a taxpayer.

Carol Granaldi

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## CORRECTION

On page 5 of the December 2006 issue of the Monthly Communicator in the article about the opening of the Brian C. Shomo Assistive Device Demonstration Center, the article incorrectly identifies the school which attended the event. The school is actually called The Deaf Program at Hudson County School of Technology.

### Reminder:

The deadline for submissions to the March issue of the Monthly Communicator is February 1, 2007.

Send E-mail submissions to:  
[Alan.Champion@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:Alan.Champion@dhs.state.nj.us)

### Monthly Communicator

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*Information or articles provided by others does not imply endorsement by DDHH or the State of New Jersey. There are currently 8,600 copies of the MC distributed monthly.*

**Deadline for submissions:**  
First of the month for the following  
month's edition

## ALDA-GS Annual Workshop - Huge Success

On Saturday, December 2, 2006, the Association of Late-Deafened Adults–Garden State (ALDA-GS) held their annual workshop at the East Brunswick Library. With nearly forty people in attendance, the ALDA-GS annual workshop was a huge success. The workshop consisted of three presentations; “Today’s Assistive Technology”-Judy Ginsberg, “Adaptive Mobile Communications”-Joey Garth, and “Reaching Out and



Touching Someone Through Your Local Library”-Carol Granaldi. The workshop had a variety of communication accommodations, including Computer Assisted Realtime Transcription (CART), assistive listening devices and sign language interpreters. For future ALDA-GS workshops, contact Sheila Shuford, [scshuford@optonline.net](mailto:scshuford@optonline.net).

### AMC Theatres Open New RWC Location in New Jersey

AMC Theatres is providing captioning to the deaf and hard of hearing community in New Jersey, by fitting Auditorium 7 with Rear Window Captioning (RWC) at its new AMC Rockaway 16 location in Rockaway, NJ. This is a direct result of the movie captioning settlement signed with the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General in September of 2004. The theatre, which opened during the last week of November 2006, is expected to fit a second auditorium with RWC shortly. For more information on the theatre and showtimes, contact: AMC Rockaway 16, Auditorium 7, Rockaway, NJ, 973-328-4255 Voice, [www.amctheatres.com](http://www.amctheatres.com)

### Southwestern States Combine Their Efforts for Hearing Loss Communities

The Arizona Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ACDHH) and the New Mexico Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons (NMCDHH) joined forces recently to create a new organization dedicated to better serving the hearing loss populations of both states. The Southwestern Commissions for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing is the first in the nation to combine the hearing loss agencies of two states. Staff of both commissions met in Pinetop, Arizona on November 1-2, 2006 for a conference focused on comparing issues facing the Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities of each state.

Executive Director Tom Dillon of the NMCDHH said he looked forward to the partnership between the two states and had high hopes for the new organization. According to Sherri Collins, Executive Director for ACDHH, “the southwest has a unique culture, with larger Hispanic and Native American populations than other states. We have a lot of the same issues,” Collins said. “Our goal is to work together, learn from each other and make a difference in the lives of the people we serve.”

The Southwestern Commissions for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing will focus on joint projects between the two states. Projects identified at the November conference include, Native Americans with hearing loss and hearing aid consumer fraud. Other southwestern states are invited to join the organization. A second conference is tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2008.



## **New Jersey Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Proudly Presents “Preparing for the National Interpreter Certification Exam”**

**Presented by Carol Tipton: CSC, CI/ CT**

This workshop will help participants prepare for the National Interpreter Certification exam, including both the knowledge and skill components. The morning session will be devoted to an overview of the new test, how questions are created, the study materials recommended, and practice questions taken from a previous test. The afternoon session will cover the interview and skill portions of the test, giving participants an opportunity to explore the rubric used to score the interview and try their skills in a simulated group exam from the RID practice DVD.

**Date:** February 24, 2007

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

**Location:** Woodbridge Library  
1 George Fredrick Plaza  
Woodbridge, New Jersey

For directions, visit <http://www.woodbridge.lib.nj.us>  
R.I.D. number required to receive CEU'S

### **DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION: February 16, 2007**

Morning session 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. - Written Test  
Afternoon session 12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Performance Test

NJRID members: \$50

Non-members: \$60

For one session only:

NJRID members \$35 Non - member \$45

Fee includes workshop and lunch

No refunds.

### **Send registration information and fee to:**

Paula La Valle-Butler - NJRID PDC Co-Chair, 11 Sextant Drive, Barnegat, NJ 08005

Morning session - .3 CEUs; Afternoon session - .35 CEUs

CEUs available in Professional Studies; Content Knowledge - some

## Demo Day and NJSD/MKSD Museum Visits

Two For One Wednesday!

January 31, 2007 and February 28, 2007

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD)

Room #119, Building 30

320 Sullivan Way

Ewing, NJ 08628

Directions: [www.mkdsd.org](http://www.mkdsd.org)

Co-sponsored by: NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
and Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf (DDHH)



Visit the new Brian C. Shomo Assistive Device Demonstration Center and the NJSD/MKSD Museum located on the campus of MKSD in Ewing, NJ.

Walk-in tours are available from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Groups that are larger than five should contact DDHH for an appointment. Send an e-mail to [Jason.Weiland@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:Jason.Weiland@dhs.state.nj.us) or [Traci.Burton@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:Traci.Burton@dhs.state.nj.us) or call: (609) 984-7281 V/TTY.

NJSD/MKSD Museum

The building (#30) is open every Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

To schedule a tour with your class, e-mail [PhySparks@tmo.blackberry.net](mailto:PhySparks@tmo.blackberry.net)

## Learn American Sign Language This Winter New Weekday and Weekend Classes Now Offered In Jersey City

Do you want to learn American Sign Language (ASL) and discover the exciting visual language used by over a million deaf Americans?

Tony Saccente and Mee Eng are offering a course in ASL in Jersey City's Newport area. Saccente and Eng have a long history working with hearing and deaf populations while raising awareness of Deaf culture. For nine years, Saccente headed the Deaf Services Department at Housing Works, Inc. in New York City. Mee Eng is President of the New York/New Jersey - based Metropolitan Asian Deaf Association.

Now the two have started American Sign Language – Jersey City, an enterprise which will help area residents gain an understanding of ASL. "Jersey City seems to be a hot spot for people interested in learning sign," said Saccente, whose parents are also deaf. "I've recently noticed more road signs which state 'Deaf Child' on streets in Jersey City so there's a greater awareness of the deaf folks in our midst," he said.

"We have something for all levels—from the very beginning ASL student to more advanced signers," said Eng, who resides in Jersey City, NJ. "By having the classes just a few minutes walk from the PATH and the Newport Mall, we hope to attract people from throughout the region and New York as well," said Eng. "It's lots of fun and a great opportunity for socializing," she added.

Each class is two hours and runs weekly for eight weeks, beginning in the winter. For additional information and registration forms, contact American Sign Language - Jersey City at [asljc2006@yahoo.com](mailto:asljc2006@yahoo.com) or call: (646) 642-5767 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mondays - Fridays, send text messages to (201) 736-3701, or visit <http://doon.smugmug.com/gallery/1918755/1/97038269>.

**New Jersey Deaf Sports, Inc. (NJDS) of the Garden State  
Proudly host  
Two Separate Invitational Tournaments**

NJDS Warriors' 3rd Annual Basketball Invitational Tournament  
January 13, 2007  
Saturday 8:00 a.m. - Championship Game  
Admission: \$15 all day to all fans and players

DEADLINE - January 6, 2007

AND

NJDS Lady Warriors 1st Annual Basketball Invitational Tournament  
February 3, 2007  
Saturday 8:00 a.m. - Championship Game  
Admission: \$15 all day to all fans and players

DEADLINE - January 20, 2007

Both events at Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD)  
320 Sullivan Way, West Trenton, NJ 08625-0535

The team fee for each event separately is \$150 (2 guarantee games) for cash prizes (\$200 late fee). Plus \$25 per team for USADB insurance total is \$175 (\$225 late fee).

MONEY ORDER ONLY - Payable to "New Jersey Deaf Sports, Inc." or "NJDS, Inc."  
Send to: NJ Deaf Sports, Inc. Heidi Schumacher;  
26 North Shore Blvd., Helmetta, NJ 08828-1233

**Prizes for winning teams:**

Base 8 men teams		Base 4 ladies teams	
1st place	\$600	1st place	\$300
2nd place	\$400	2nd place	\$200
3rd place	\$200	3rd place	\$100

For information, contact Heidi at 732-521-3098 VP or NJDeafSportsInc@aol.com.

Both events sanctioned by our sponsors EAAD & USADB.

## “Stone Soup” Presented to Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students

The New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped (NJLBH) held its monthly Children’s American Sign Language (ASL) Story Hour on November 14. Anne Lemay, the Children’s Librarian at Franklin Township Public Library, read Stone Soup (a children’s book set in France), by author Marcia Brown. The children participated in a lively question-and-answer session afterwards. Ms. Lemay autographed and donated a copy of the book to the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD) school library. NJLBH is a division of the New Jersey State Library



Inspired by the book reading, a second grade student from MKSD used ASL to share with the audience the story of Stone Soup that he learned when he lived in Maryland.

After the book presentation, Ellen L. Catalano, a cookbook author for the visually impaired, showed the children how to make chocolate chip cookies. Ms. Catalano used a mock oven she crafted for the demonstration complete with temperature dial and a door that really opened. The children were active participants, and helped to “preheat” the oven, assemble the dough on pans and remove cookies when finished.



Next, Pete Campione, owner of the Kindred Souls Canine Center, introduced Valentine, a therapy dog, and her owner Mari Coderre. Several students guessed that Valentine was a Great Dane and Pete explained that Great Danes are one of

the largest breeds of dogs. Mari then shared with the children that Valentine is special not just because of her large size, but because she is deaf and visually impaired. Valentine has been trained to use sign language commands for her daily activities, which Maria and Valentine demonstrated for the audience.



After the story hour, the children enjoyed refreshments and drinks. Ms. Catalano passed out the chocolate chip cookies made during the presentation along with a handout reviewing the baking steps that were followed.

Attending the story hour were students in grades two through five from the MKSD, home-schooled hearing children, and students with multiple disabilities from three classes at the Hunterdon County ESC School in Lambertville. Ninety-six children participated.

This story hour is made accessible to Deaf children through ASL interpreters provided by the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH), in the NJ Department of Human Services. The presentation is accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation illustrating each page along with the storyteller. The story hour promotes English literacy skills for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing by enabling them to enjoy simultaneously ASL and English versions of books.

Workshops and events such as the story hour are scheduled by Christine Olsen, Coordinator of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program at the NJLBH. For more information, contact Christine at 877-882-5593 TTY or [colsen@njs-tatelib.org](mailto:colsen@njs-tatelib.org). NJLBH is located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton. For information on the NJLBH and its programs, call Anne McArthur at 609-530-3242.



**Photos from NJRID's October workshop at Ocean County College on Voicing for Educational Interpreters. The self - guide workshop was led by Joan Cohen.**





# Screening of “Maya & Miguel” Occurs at MKSD

In recognition of Deaf Awareness Week, the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD) hosted a series of events related to Deaf culture and the use of American Sign Language (ASL) this past fall.



deaf student, as he moves to a new school and explained how the children work to communicate with each other. The episode featured the animated characters using ASL. The screening was presented with open captions. "Give Me A Little Sign" was made possible by Public Broadcasting Station, Scholastic Media, the U.S. Department of Education's Captioned Media Program and the National Association of the Deaf.



On Monday September 25, students and faculty from the Katzenbach's Early Childhood Program, elementary school and middle school gathered in the middle school cafeteria at 2:00 p.m. for an activity related to communication and ASL. This was followed by a premiere screening of "Give Me A Little Sign," a new episode of the award-winning children's television program, "Maya & Miguel" in the school theatre.

This program episode shared the experience of a new character Marco, a



# Communicator Signboard

## NWJAD



**(NorthWest Jersey Association of the Deaf, Inc.)**

**Meeting & Social Night**

**Saturday, January 27, 2007**

Doors open at 8:00 PM at the St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 215 Boulevard, Mountain Lakes, NJ

Members: Free and Non-members: \$4. Everyone is welcome, including sign language students.

- Elections of new officers (postponed from the last meeting)
  - New officers will take their oath after the elections
- Refreshments to celebrate new officers and the New Year  
(no alcoholic beverages served)

Please donate desserts.

Info/directions: [www.nwjad.org](http://www.nwjad.org); [nwjad@nwjad.org](mailto:nwjad@nwjad.org)

happy, healthy & safe New Year to all, from your NWJAD board!



**TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**150 EAST SECOND STREET**  
**BURLINGTON, NJ 08016**

American Sign Language Interpreted Services  
at 11 AM

on the first and third Sundays of each month  
beginning February 2007.

For more information contact;  
Teresa Branham, Director, Deaf Ministry;  
609-386-9350 Voice  
or [branham.te.cade@verizon.net](mailto:branham.te.cade@verizon.net)

# Communicator Signboard

## DISTINGUISHED POET SERIES READING

Saturday, February 3, 2007

1:00 PM

Paterson Poetry Prize Winners Reading

The Distinguished Poets Series of the Poetry Center at Passaic County Community College  
*Presents*

A poetry reading by 2006 Paterson Poetry Prize winner, LUIS RODRIGUEZ, and finalists (Jacqueline Berger, Barbara Crooker, Daniel Donaghy, Gary Fincke, Gail Mazur, Peter E. Murphy, Henny Wenkart, and Rynn Williams)  
at the Hamilton Club Building, 32 Church Street, Paterson, NJ

A reception will follow reading. Admission is free, and a sign interpreter will be present.

For information, please call the Poetry Center at 973 684-6555 or visit [www.pccc.edu/poetry](http://www.pccc.edu/poetry).

Contact: Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Executive Director of the Poetry Center.



## North Jersey Community Center of the Deaf, Inc.

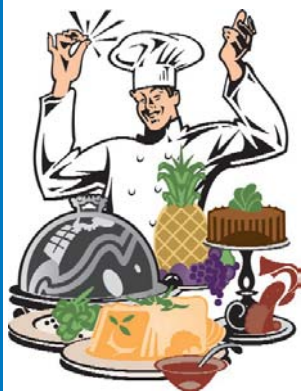
Proudly Presents

ALL YOU CAN EAT BUFFET & BRUNCH  
Excellent Dining - Number One in NJ  
Chinese - American - Japanese - Italian Foods

**Saturday, February 17, 2007**

**11:00 AM to 3:00 PM** - *all you can eat for four hours*

**Majestic Restaurant & Buffet,  
29 Route 23 South, Wayne, NJ**



Guest Show - Deaf Ukrainian Dancer - Maria Solovey  
Chairperson - Denis J. Munn and Committee

Cost - \$23 per person - Same price for members and non-members

Make your reservation early, Make check or money order payable to NJCCD, Inc. with the list of names provided and mail to: Peter Vandenberg, 50 Maple Hill Road, Clifton, NJ 07013 by February 10, 2007.

NOTE: Reservations in advance required. Limit - 120 people in a private room.

For more information, contact Denis J. Munn at [SAMBOSCO@aol.com](mailto:SAMBOSCO@aol.com).

For directions or information about restaurant, visit [www.majesticdining.com](http://www.majesticdining.com).

# Calendar of Events 2007

## **DDHH Advisory Council Meeting**

January 26, 2007  
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

East Brunswick Library  
2 Jean Walling Civic Center,  
East Brunswick, NJ 08816

RSVP to  
DDHH 800-792-8339 V/TTY  
Open to the Public

Next meeting - April 27, 2007  
Location to be Announced



## **Union County College**

20th Anniversary ASL Festival  
April 14, 2007

Information Rian Nataadiningrat  
ASL Festival Chairperson  
uccaslfestival@yahoo.com  
(For more details,  
see next issue)

## **Family Learning Day**

Saturday May 19, 2007  
Lake Drive School,  
Mountain Lakes  
Details coming soon

NJ DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING  
PO BOX 074  
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0074

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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